



Date: September 18, 2007
To: Anthony W. Batts, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending Friday, September 14

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the weeks ending Friday, September 14. Please contact staff if you have any questions.

IN THE NEWS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Community Development, Workforce Development

The Workforce Development Bureau, recently renamed as the new Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network (Network), has been selected by the City of Los Angeles and its Workforce Investment Board to operate the Harbor WorkSource Center. This complements the Network's regional strategy of creating resource and industry leverage with the cities of Torrance and Lomita by adding the communities of San Pedro, Harbor City, Wilmington and Harbor Gateway to the Network's service delivery area. The expansion will strengthen efforts to train and place residents of the Network communities in industries related to the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, construction trades, and utilities and energy production. Contact Melu_Habacon@longbeach.gov for more information.

FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Water

On **Thursday, September 13**, the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners officially declared that a **water supply shortage for the City of Long Beach is imminent**. In making the Declaration, the Board of Water Commissioners has activated the Long Beach Water Department's Emergency Water Supply Shortage Plan, implementing additional water use prohibitions citywide. The Declaration is a proactive measure taken to forestall or lessen the impact of an expected water supply shortage.

Under the Declaration, the **following uses of water are now prohibited**:

- Washing driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, patios or other outdoor cemented or paved areas with a garden hose, unless it is attached to pressurized water broom;
- Irrigating any landscape with potable water between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 pm;
- Irrigating any landscape more than three days per week;

Nearly half of the city's water supply is imported. The City of Long Beach has been under a Declaration of Immediate and Extraordinary Water Conservation since June 14. For more information, please visit www.lbwater.org.

**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS & PROJECTS**

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Health & Human Services

To commemorate National Preparedness Month in September, the Health Emergency Management Program will host an **emergency planning and information booth** at the Long Beach Downtown Farmers' Market on **September 21** from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Information on emergency preparedness and developing family planning guides will be distributed. Community groups interested in scheduling a presentation on how families can prepare emergency plans can visit http://www.longbeach.gov/health/bt/er_prep.asp or call 570.4312.

Police

Community-focused, career-minded individuals who want to be dedicated police officers are currently being recruited for the Long Beach Police. The Department, one of the finest in the nation, is committed to building leaders and offers a wide range of assignments and excellent benefits. The deadline to apply is **October 31**. For more information, visit www.longbeach.gov/police or call 570.6202.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION & LEISURE

Library Services

Upcoming Events at the Main Library, 101 Pacific Ave.
For more information, please call 570.7500.

Individuals are invited to join in a brown bag lunchtime book discussion on **Wednesday, September 19**, from 12:10 - 12:50 pm. This month's theme is *Family Secrets*, and the two books being read are *The Thirteenth Tale: A Novel* by Diane Setterfield and/or *Sharp Objects: A Novel* by Gillian Flynn.

Residents are invited to experience the exciting phenomena of pulp fiction during a presentation called *Pulp Fiction: The First Graphic Novel* on **Saturday, September 22**, at 3:00 pm. Speaker Laurie Powers will relate stories of the pulp fiction industry and her grandfather, pulp writer, Paul S. Powers.

A display, **60 Years of Fashion in Long Beach**, features a sampling of vintage apparel from library staff collections together with fashion images from the Long Beach History Collection, 1900-1960. The display will continue **through October 6**.

Artist Wendy Hultquist will be exhibiting ***Impressions of Southern California***, her Southern California Impressionist inspired paintings, **through October**.

The Los Altos Neighborhood Library offers **free computer classes on Saturdays** from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. These personalized one-hour classes cover basic Internet, e-mail skills, Microsoft Word and Excel, and using the library catalog and electronic databases.

**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS & PROJECTS**

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services

Residents can learn if they qualify for any of the 475 patient assistance programs, many of which offer free or low-cost prescription medications, during the **Partnership for Prescription Assistance's *Help is Here Express*** on **September 18** from 9:00 to 11:00 am at the Long Beach Health Department, 2525 Grand Ave. For more information, please call 916.658.0144.

Food facility owners and employees can learn about new requirements and changes in California food safety laws that took effect this July during a free seminar on **September 19**. The ***How will Cal Code Affect my Food Facility?*** seminar will be hosted by Environmental Health at the Miller Family Health Education Center, 3820 Cherry Ave., from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. For information, please call 570.4494.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Community Development, Workforce Development

Fifteen young adults recently graduated from Utility Industry Training project, a project made possible through the collaboration of the Youth Opportunity Center, Center for Working Families and the Bridge (a non-profit agency). The program provides exposure to careers in the utilities industry by helping participants acquire skills instrumental in succeeding in this field: general knowledge of apprenticeships and the utilities industry; time management; and related life skills. The trainees benefited from a mini-job fair organized by the Utility Workers of America Apprenticeship Trust. Participating employers included Southern California Edison, American Water, and Golden West Water. By June 30, 2008, 15 additional young adults will enroll and train in the project. Funding for the Bridge's Project came through the Workforce Investment Board and Youth Opportunity Center's 2006 WIA Request for Proposals. Please contact Melu_Habacon@longbeach.gov for more information.

The inaugural class of the Center for Working Families' Brownfields Environmental Remediation Program graduated on Thursday, September 6. The Brownfields Program seeks to revitalize communities - economically and environmentally - and prepared 18 residents for employment in the remediation of properties with contaminated soils. The training included hazard identification, lead and asbestos abatement, First Aid and CPR, and other related topics such as refinery safety overviews. Funding for the project comes from the Environmental Protection Agency; and over the life of the two-year project, 140 residents are expected to be trained and placed in employment. For more information, contact Melu_Habacon@longbeach.gov.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Approximately 50,000 people attended the ***Belmont Shore Car Show*** on Second Street on September 9.

Approximately 500 people attended the ***2nd Saturday Art Walk*** on Linden Avenue, between 1st St. and Broadway on September 8.

A cast and a crew of 60 filmed a TV production ***CANE*** on Sorrento Drive and at the Shoreline Yacht Club on September 10 and 11.

A cast and a crew of 125 filmed a TV production ***Blind Decker*** on Bellflower Blvd. and 54th Place and Ocean Blvd. on September 11.

A cast and a crew of 75 filmed a TV production ***Cold Case*** on 47th St. on September 12.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

In recognition of **National Preparedness Month**, St. Mary Medical Center Good Faith Ambassadors and the Neighborhood Resource Center co-sponsored the ***When Disaster Strikes*** workshop. More than 140 residents learned how to prepare for earthquakes, terrorist attacks, and other disasters, including what kinds of food, water and other supplies to keep at home, office, school, and in the car. Several attendees survived the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. For more information, call 570.1010.

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of **979** emergency calls for service. **80** calls were for fires with **13** involving structures. The Department also responded to **827** emergency medical calls; **571** requiring paramedics.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION & LEISURE

Library Services

The Library's website features an Event Calendar that displays programming information for all twelve library sites. By looking at the full calendar and clicking on any day of the week, people can see special events as well as regularly scheduled programming. For more information, visit www.lbpl.org.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Approximately 15 residents recently attended a community garden meeting at Grace Park for residents interested in a garden plot at the new Grace Community Garden.

FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Health and Human Services

The **Recreation Water Program** continues, according to State regulations, to monitor 25 recreational water sites weekly and, as of September 12, there were no advisories in affect.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Health and Human Services (continued)

The **City's Recreational Water Quality Task Force** continues to work diligently to improve the city's recreational water quality, and was expanded to include water quality experts from Heal the Bay. The Task Force will be paying especially close attention to the Health Department's beach water testing results in September. For information, please visit <http://www.longbeach.gov/health/organization/eh/water/default.asp> or call the Water Quality Hotline at 570.4199.

FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS & HOUSING

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

Staff removed **576** illegally placed signs, documented and reported **29** cases of graffiti, and called in **55** abandoned shopping carts discovered along the major commercial streets in North Long Beach during August. For more information about this commercial corridor improvement program, contact Chantara_Nop@longbeach.gov.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Approximately 15 residents attended a community meeting at Grace Park to discuss vandalism issues.

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health & Human Services, Environmental Health Bureau

September is **National Food Safety Education Month** and staff is conducting community and food establishment events to increase awareness about food safety and prevention of food borne illnesses. Food safety displays, at 2525 Grand Ave., will highlight food safety for new mothers and mothers-to-be, the most common food bacteria that can cause illness, advances in food safety technology and the food safety differences between licensed and unlicensed food carts. For more information, please call 570.4494.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

On September 8, the MacArthur Park Neighborhood Impact Team coordinated a neighborhood cleanup and safety roundup in the MacArthur Park neighborhood (boundaries are Anaheim Street to Pacific Coast Hwy and Cherry Avenue to Orange Avenue.)

More than 200 volunteers (residents, business owners and City staff) collected illegally dumped trash, debris and large items, painted out graffiti, filled in potholes, trimmed street trees to provide more street lighting, and steam cleaned side walks. City staff provided information regarding the Business Watch Program, housing availability, employment opportunities, residential and commercial improvement programs and various improvement rebates the City offers.

In addition, staff from Code Enforcement, Health Housing, Fire Prevention, Police and the City Prosecutor's Office inspected ten problem properties, and meetings will be held with the property owners and the properties will be monitored for compliance.

For more information, contact Bryant_Ben@longbeach.gov.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of **2,867** service calls. This total included **928** gas and water utility turn-ons, and **582** turn-offs. During this period, **467** customer service orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders and verifying read orders, and verifying read orders. A total of **186** meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received **294** emergency phone calls that resulted in **79** emergency orders being sent out.

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION **STREET CONSTRUCTION REPORT**

Current Projects

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: LBGO 570.2064
Bounded by Carson St., Wardlow Rd., Clark Ave. & Bellflower Blvd.
(Parkcrest, Conant, Stearnlee, Hanbury, Harco & Walkerton)

Estimated completion: Mid September

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: LBGO 570.2064
Bounded by Long Beach Blvd & Atlantic Ave; 46th St & San Antonio Dr.

Estimated completion: Late October

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: LBGO 570.2064
Bounded by 6th St & 4th St; Golden Ave & Maine St.

Estimated completion: Mid October

Public Works, Street Improvement

Contact: Public Works 570.5160
Walnut Ave. Between 10th St. & Pacific Coast Highway

Estimated completion: Early October

Public Works, Street Improvement

Contact: Public Works 570.5160
Long Beach Blvd. Between San Antonio Dr. & Del Amo Blvd.
California Ave. Between San Antonio Dr. & 46th St.

Estimated completion: Early October

Public Works, Streetscape Improvement

Contact: Public Works 570.5160
Martin Luther King Blvd. Between Pacific Coast Highway & 20th St.

Estimated completion: Late September

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION

Street Construction Report, Current Projects (continued)

Water Department, Alley Service Connection Conversion - Earl & Locust Avenues Project

Contact: Water 570.2323
Pine, Earl and Locust Ave. Between 21st St. & Burnett St.
Estimated completion: October

**Water Department, Long Beach Conjunctive Use Expansion
(to store water in underground aquifers for dry year use)**

Contact: Water 570.2326
Near Carson St. & Palo Verde Ave.
Estimated completion: April 2008

AB: KP: dg

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
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